

# Chancellor College Bulletin



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### Editorial Team:

Dr. Ken Lipenga Jr (Chief Editor), Assoc. Prof Samson Sajidu (Vice Principal)

## EDITORIAL: RESTARTING THE CYCLE

So now the year is past, and we are ushering in a new one. In a few weeks, it will be business as usual, drafting first year orientation speeches, preparing for lectures, handing out assignments, the whole rigmarole of routine activities that define an academic year. So much fun for everyone.

However, our work does not always have to be routine and repetitive. As individuals, this might be the academic year when we decide to do things differently, rather than act as mechanical cogs driving a system that never changes. This could be the year you make an attempt for that title of Professor. Or this could be the year you finally get started on turning your dust-gathering thesis into a book. It can all happen in the year of our Lord 2016.

One of the things we could do - and indeed which is already being done in some sectors of the College - is to reflect on the key issue of inclusive education. 3rd December was the global day of remembering people living with disabilities. At Chancellor College, we may not have done anything special on this day (possibly because

we were busy marking a special set of exams), but that does not mean that we consider the matter of disability one of low priority.

Indeed it is a matter that is deliberated at all stages of the academic year. Deans take disability into consideration from the very moment of accepting students into various programmes, at the stage of room allocation, development of lectures and teaching material, and administration of exams. This is all part of a united effort to ensure that the

learning process at the college is inclusive, and does not discriminate against anyone.

Recently, two esteemed female academics made a presentation on the proposed UNIMA Inclusion Policy. While there is still some uncertainty regarding the naming of the policy, the intentions behind it are truly honorable.

Developments such as these are part of the change we want to see at Chancellor College. All it needs is our united effort. We can achieve this and more in 2016.



*The face of Chancellor College*

## ADMINISTRATION

### UNIMA holds strategic Plan Mid-Term Review and Planning workshop

University of Malawi management travelled to Mangochi from 2nd to 3rd November, 2015, to hold a Strategic Plan Mid-Term Review and Planning workshop. The workshop was held at

Nkopola Lodge.

During the workshop, each college presented their mid-term review reports, which included achievements made so far, as well as challenges and plans up to 2017.



*Participants at the workshop*

These presentations were critically reviewed by participants, who also gave their recommendations for improving the planned activities for each college.

Chancellor College was represented by the offices of the Principal, Registrar, Deans, directors, librarian and UWTU president whereas the student body was represented by UMSU representatives.

Among the objectives identified by Chancellor College are the following: increasing undergraduate enrollment from the current number of 4390 to 7500 per year; setting up a quality assurance management system; encouraging staff to be aggressive in research, consultancy and community engagement activities; documenting all technologies and innovations that have

been developed at Chancellor College and continuing to showcase them through a vibrant website; continuing rehabilitation of dilapidated structures; increasing number of academic staff with PhDs and Masters degrees; developing an integrated computerized management information system processor which will encompass processes for SARIS, ACPAC, bank issues as well as a human resource information management system; having a vibrant strategic monitoring team; intensifying writing multi-disciplinary funding proposals coordinated by the Resource Mobilization Unit; reinforcing timely collection of tuition fees and having a fee structure that responds to economic changes.

### Chanco Debates UNIMA Disability / Inclusion Policy

On 7th December, 2015, the College arranged for the disability policy, which is still in development, to be discussed by members of the college community. Making the presentation on the proposed Disability Policy and the Wellness Unit was Dr Jubilee Tizifa, flanked by Dr Elizabeth Kamchedzera, a Special Needs Education expert in the Faculty of Education.

In her presentation, Dr Tizifa pointed out that the policy aims to increase equitable access, participation, and achievement by students and staff with disabilities. The meeting was mainly to solicit feedback from the Chancellor College community, with regard to elements that could be

amended, removed, or included in the policy.

Unsurprisingly, a lively discussion ensued after the presentations, with members of staff seeking queries and making

suggestions on the way forward.

Some of the questions were on the naming of the policy, to which the presenters responded that the naming of the policy is not only influenced by the wishes of UNIMA management, but also by the input from those who stand to be affected by it.

Staff also queried the funding of activities outlined in the policy, to which the presenters responded that funding would be drawn directly from the University budget, but would also be dependent on inclusion-related materials that Heads of Department include in their budgets.



*Dr. Elizabeth Kamchedzera and Dr. Jubilee Tizifa, responding to questions from the audience*



## LIBRARY

### Library closed for massive facelift

As part of the general renovation work at Chancellor College, the past month has been focused on work in the library. College management announced that the library would be closed from November 2015 to February 2016.

The work has mainly involved the tiling of upper and middle floors of the library, and the painting of its walls. One phase of this work, which

involved removal of old books, book shelves and the old carpet has been completed and self levelling in preparation for the final tiling has also been done. The tiles are expected to arrive in the second week of January 2016.

Since December, library staff have systematically packed the library books for safe keeping while the renovations are taking place.



*Book shelves being dismantled and moved out of the library for safe keeping*

## ADMINISTRATION

### Mzuzu satellite campus undergoes renovation

In pursuing its objective of increasing student enrollment, Chancellor College has always faced the problem of limited infrastructure available at Chirunga Campus in Zomba. As a way of countering this limitation, the College embarked on site identification for its ODL/E-learning programs in Blantyre, Lilongwe and Mzuzu in mid-2014. The Ministry of

Labour and Manpower Development offered Mzuzu Trade Testing Centre Located in Luwanga industrial area on rental basis.

Renovation of the three roomed block with a capacity of about one hundred students started early November, 2015, focusing on refurbishing the floor, painting and also fixing the ceiling boards in the rooms. Security enforcement has

also been one of the issues which the College has worked on to ensure safety of equipment installed at the facility. Additional toilets have also been constructed on site.

It is envisaged that programs on site will run for 7 days a week starting from 7.00 am till late. Both Bachelors and Masters programs could also be handled through the same platform, including some of the already existing programs.

The e-Learning section, under the leadership of Dr. Antonie Chigeda, will engage with staff to agree on how programs could be handled under the platform.

It is also important to note that an MOU has been developed to guide the two institutions on the running of the site. Currently the Ministry of Justice and the UNIMA Legal counsel are working on the MOU. All things being equal, launch of the site is planned to take place in February, 2016 in Mzuzu.



*A section of one of the newly painted rooms*

## HUMANITIES

### Faculty of Humanities holds 2015 Conference

From 10 to 11 November, 2015, the Faculty of Humanities held its international conference, with the theme of "Rethinking the Humanities in the 21st Century". Participants at the conference, who included a variety of international academics, made their presentations at the Great Hall and in the Little Theatre.

During the opening ceremony of the conference, the Keynote Speaker, Professor Mpalive Hangson Msiska, emphasized the need for scholars in the Humanities to ensure that their work decolonizes ideas that have become dominant in society. He refuted the

view that upholds the Humanities as the polar opposite of the Sciences, and instead insisted that as a way of rethinking the academic field within Africa, scholars in the Humanities need to ensure that their disciplines constitute a partial local epidemic formation, so that the end result is a hybrid, and not merely a copying of the Humanities practiced in the West.

In agreement with the keynote speaker, the Vice Chancellor, Professor John Kalenga Saka, spoke of a time when Humanities students could study subjects in the sciences, and vice versa

Many of the presentations took up the call for rethinking the Humanities, touching on topics including nationally and internationally topical matters such as Cashgate, climate change, HIV/AIDS, cinema, and hip-hop culture.

The Faculty of Humanities comprises

the departments of English, African Languages and Linguistics, Philosophy, Classics, Language and Communications Studies, French, Theology and Religious Studies, and Fine and Performing Arts. It also houses the Centre for Language Studies and is affiliated with Chanco Radio.



*Prof. Mpalive Hangson Msiska delivers the keynote speech*

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

### World Bank launches Malawi Economic Monitor at Chancellor College

The World Bank on Thursday 03 December 2015 launched the Malawi Economic Monitor (MEM) at the Little Theatre, Chancellor College. The launch, facilitated by the

Department of Economics, was titled "Adjusting in Turbulent Times". The Monitor provides an analysis of economic and structural development issues in Malawi. It is aimed at

fostering better informed policy analysis and debate regarding the key challenges that Malawi faces in the endeavor to achieve high rates of inclusive and sustainable economic growth. The launch highlighted the turbulent times the economy is facing and how education in

particular can be improved.

The Principal of Chancellor College, Prof. Richard Tambulasi graced the occasion. In his speech, he stressed how the Bank can use the College's students to conduct research on critical issues affecting the economy which can be used in the MEM series. He also hinted on a possible collaboration between the Bank and the College staff on research papers to obtain empirical evidence for policy recommendations. Speaking on behalf of the Bank, Senior Economist, Dr. Richard Record, stressed on the importance of sharing research findings with students and researchers. He further indicated that choosing Chancellor College for the launch is in keeping with the Bank's goal of sharing knowledge.



*Participants at the launch pose for a group photograph*



## SCIENCE

### Marketing Chancellor College at SAMSA Conference

The Faculty of Science was recently represented by two of its members at the Southern Africa Mathematical Sciences Association (SAMSA) Conference in Windhoek, Namibia from 28-27 November 2015, where they presented papers.

The Dean of Faculty of Science, Dr. Levis Eneya, made two presentations. The first one was on *Optimization in Separation Processes: Case of Distillation*; and the second paper was on *Optimal Route Design and Adaptive Route Allocation in Malawi Cities: A Case Study of Lilongwe City*. The latter was based on a study that was done by a group in the Mathematical Sciences Department supported by Chancellor College research funds.

On her part, Ms. Halima Twabi presented on *Modeling Length of*

*Hospital Stay for Tuberculosis Treated In-Patients at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital: An Application of Competing Risks*

*Modeling*, a study that she conducted as part of her MSc work in the Mathematical Sciences Department.

Realizing their ambassadorial roles during the conference, members also took the opportunity to market

UNIMA and Chancellor College through an exhibition organized on the sidelines of the conference.

The Chancellor College team showcased programmes at the college through the College and Faculty of Science flyers.



Dr. Levis Eneya, Dean of Science, marketing UNIMA programmes to delegates visiting the UNIMA table

### Dr Chomora Mikeka elected Secretary General of AFRA-NEST



The Africa Network for Nuclear Education, Science and Technology (AFRA-NEST) is an organization of scientists that aims to foster sustainable human resource development and nuclear knowledge management to satisfy the needs of African countries with/without higher education in the priority areas on non-power and power applications of nuclear energy.

During the 2nd AFRA-NEST General Assembly, which met in Lusaka between 7th and 11th December, Dr. Chomora Mikeka, who is a senior lecturer in Physics and Electronics at Chancellor College, was elected the 1st Secretary General for the Network. In this

capacity, he will be reporting to its Highest level Steering Committee (HLSC) and to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The position runs for a 2 year period.

The main objective of AFRA-NEST is the facilitation of operation and networking in higher education, training and related research in Nuclear Science (NS&T) in the African region. This is done through sharing information and materials of nuclear education and training, as well as developing harmonized approaches for education in nuclear science and technology in Africa by establishing reference curricula and facilitating mutual recognition of degrees.

## LAW

### Championing Disability Rights: the Law School Program

The Faculty of Law has been in the forefront in providing education and legal services in disability rights in Malawi. This has mainly been done through its disability rights and law school program, funded by the Open Society Initiative of Southern Africa (OSISA).

There have been three parts to this work. First, the faculty has integrated the subject of disability rights into its teaching and research activities. Secondly, the Faculty's legal clinic includes a disability rights component. Thirdly, staff and students in the faculty have been engaged in community outreach.

One of the activities under teaching activities was a study visit to Kamuzu Vocational, Rehabilitation and Training Centre at

Magomero in Chiradzulu district. Dr Enoch Chilemba, a lecturer in the faculty, was accompanied by 35 students - some of whom were drawn from the special needs section of Chancellor College - on this trip. The purpose of the trip was to appreciate the extent to which the Malawi government is

fulfilling its obligation to realize the rights of people with disabilities.

In November 2015, the Faculty conducted a training workshop for judicial officers of the Eastern Region of Malawi, where they equipped magistrates with the law of disability. This was convened at the Law faculty, and involved

magistrates from Zomba, Phalombe, Mangochi, Machinga, Balaka and Ntcheu districts.

Under the same program, the Faculty was able to hold a Disability Rights Conference on 1st December, at Malawi Sun Hotel. The conference was attended by staff, students, and members of the public.



The team from the Law faculty, upon arrival at Kamuzu Vocational Rehabilitation and Training Centre

### Law and PAS staff in Human Rights, Gender and Water Governance Project

Members of staff in the Faculty of Law and the Department of Political and Administrative Studies have for the past three years been involved in the Human Rights, Gender and Water Governance Project. The project also involved members of staff from other institutions, including the University of Oslo, University of Zimbabwe, University of Strathmore and the International Water Management Institute. The proposal for the project was submitted to

the Norwegian Research Council.

As part of the activities under the project, there was an international conference held in April, 2011, to present findings from pilot studies. The conference was held at Capital Hotel, Lilongwe, and was attended by all the research teams.

One of the beneficiaries of the project was Mrs Ngcimezile Mweso, a lecturer in the Law faculty, who received partial funding for her PhD studies. She enrolled at the University of the Western Cape in 2011, and has since completed her studies.

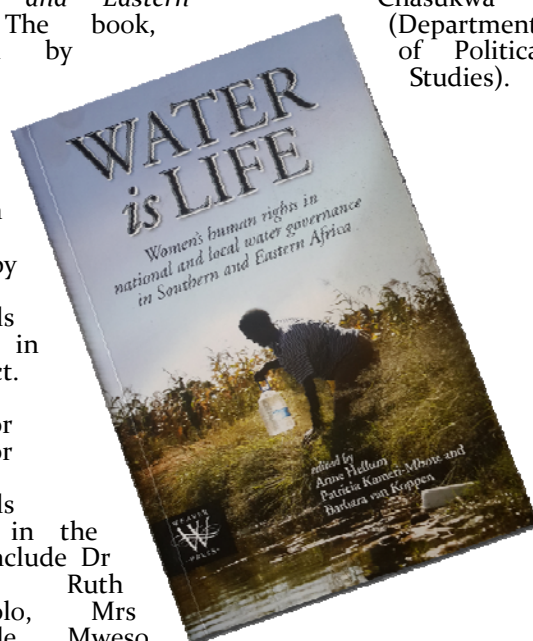
The work of the project has culminated in a publication in the form a book entitled *Water is Life: Women's human*

*rights in national and local water governance in Southern and Eastern Africa.* The book, published by

Weaver Press in 2015, contains articles based on work done by various individuals involved in the project.

From Chancellor College, individuals involved in the project include Dr Ngeyi Ruth Kanyongolo, Mrs Ngcimezile Mweso (Faculty of Law); and

Dr Asiyati Chiweza and Mr Michael Chasukwa (Department of Political Studies).





## RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

*Below is a list of some of the research output from members of staff at Chancellor College. We wish to congratulate our colleagues who are actively engaged in research and publication for the socio-economic development of the nation and the world. You really make us proud. Let's keep it up!*

### Books

Dzimhiri, L. B. (2015) *Organization and Management Theories: an African Focus: Integrating Structure, People, Processes and the Environment for Human Happiness*, 2nd Edition. Zomba: Academic Books Publishers

### Journal Articles

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**Chasukwa, M.,** (2015) Examining the Politics of Land Rush in Malawi's Outgrower Farming System: The Case of Kasinthula Cane Growers Limited. *Journal of African and Mediterranean Studies-Afriche e Orienti*, Special Issue on Rural Development Policies and Poverty Reduction in Southern Africa: Experiences from Zambia and Malawi, 68-82

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Hideaki Shibata, Cristina Branquinho, William H. McDowell, Myron J. Mitchell, Don T. Monteith, Jianwu Tang, Lauri Arvola, Cristina Cruz, Daniela Cusack, Lubos Halada, Jiri Kopacek, Cristina Máguas, **Samson Sajidu**, Hendrik Schubert, Naoko Tokuchi, Jaroslav Záhora, (2015), Consequence of altered nitrogen cycles in the coupled human and ecological system under changing climate: the need for long-term and site-based researches. *AMBIO*, 44: 3, 178-193.

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**Lipenga, K. J.** (2015). Weaving a path from the past: Gender, disability and narrative enablement in Zulu Love Letter. *Agenda: Empowering Women for Gender Equity*, 29:2, 112-121

**Lipenga, K. J.** (2015). Voicing Marginality: disability in Leila Aboulela's *Lyrics Alley*. *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, 1-15.

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**Tambulasi, R.I.C., and Chasukwa, M.** (2015). Holding the Brains Back In: An Assessment of Measures Against Brain Drain in the Malawian Health Sector. *Africa Review*, 7: 2, 104-120

**Tambulasi R.I.C.** (2015), Conditionality, Path Dependency and Veto Points: The Political of Hospital Autonomy Reforms in Malawi. *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 50: 20, 176-195

Vizy, E.K., K.H. Cook, **J. Chimphamba,** and B. McCusker (2015). Projected changes in Malawi's growing season. *Clim. Dyn.*, 45, 1673-1698

Zeitlyn, Benjamin, Keith M. Lewin, **Joseph Chimombo, Elizabeth Meke** (2015). Inside private secondary schools in Malawi: Access or exclusion? *International Journal of Educational Development*, 43, 109-117

### Book Chapters

Barwell, R., Clarkson, P., Halai, A., **Kazima, M.,** Moschkovich, J., Planas, N., Phakeng, M., Valero, P., Villavicencio, M. (2015). An ICMI Study on Language Diversity in Mathematics Education. In R. Barwell, P. Clarkson, A. Halai, M. Kazima, J. Moschkovich, N. Planas, M. Phakeng, P. Valero, & M. Villavicencio (Eds.) *Mathematics Education and Language Diversity*, Switzerland : Springer International

## Highlights of 2015

*There have been many ups and downs in the past year. We would like to take this moment to remind our readership of some of the more positive of such moments, as we see them as being landmark strides not only in the activities of Chancellor College, but also those of the entire University of Malawi.*

The year 2015 started with heavy rains. Despite these rains, however, the Chancellor College community jointly engaged in a **reforestation** exercise, keeping Chirunga campus green. The staff of Chancellor College were joined by Chief Chikanda in this endeavour, alongside other people from Zomba city.

When the first semester ended, college management decided to reintroduce the tradition of recognizing students on the **Dean's list**. 50 students made it onto that list, and were treated to a cocktail. The students were from all five faculties of Chancellor College.

Chancellor College launched its **Strategic Plan** on 24th April, 2015. The launch occurred simultaneously with that of the Masters programme in Public Administration and Management, which is partially supported by the University of Oslo.

**Leadership Training:** In a bid to upgrade the skills of its members of staff, the college management arranged for a training workshops for Heads and Deans, their deputies, and secretaries at Sunbird Nkopola Lodge.

In, August, 2015, the college hosted the University's 21st and 22nd **inaugural lectures**, presented by Professors Wapulumuka Mulwafu and Edrinnie Kayambazinthu, respectively.

## RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Publishing, pp 1-22.

**Chasukwa, Michael; Kanyongolo, Ngeyi, Ruth; Chiweza, Asiyati Lorraine; Chirwa, Timothy** (2015). Primary Actors on the Back Seat: Gender, Human Rights and Rural Water Governance in Malawi – Lessons from Mpemba and Chileka. In Anne Hellum, Patricia Kameri-Mbote and Barbara van Koppen (Eds.) *Water is Life: Women's Human Rights in National and Local Water Governance in Southern and Eastern Africa*, Harare: Weaver Press, pp 274-299.

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**Chinsinga, B., and Chasukwa, M.** (2015). Trapped between Fertiliser Input Subsidy Programme and Green Belt Initiative: An Audit of Contemporary Malawian Agrarian Political Economy. In Hall, R., Scoones, I., and Tsikata, D., (Eds.) *Africa's Land Rush: Rural Livelihoods and Agrarian Change*, Oxford: James Currey, pp 132-149

**Chiweza, Asiyati Lorraine; Kanyongolo, Ngeyi Ruth; Chasukwa, Michael and Chirwa, Timothy** (2015) Women's Right to Water and Participation in Practice: Insights from Urban Local Water Governance Systems. In Anne Hellum, Patricia Kameri-Mbote and Barbara van Koppen (Eds.) *Water is Life: Women's Human Rights in National and Local Water Governance in Southern and Eastern Africa*, Harare: Weaver Press, pp 244-273.

Durand-Guerrier, V., **Kazima, M.**, Libbrecht, P., Njomgang Ngansop, J., Salekhova, L., Tuktamyshov, N. and Winslow, C. (2015). Challenges and Opportunities for Second Language Learners in Undergraduate Mathematics. In Barwell, R., Clarkson, P., Halai, A., Kazima, M., Moschkovich, J., Planas, N., Phakeng, M., Valero, P., Villavicencio, M. (Eds.) *Mathematics Education and Language Diversity*, Switzerland :

Springer International Publishing, pp 85-101.

**Kanyongolo, Ngeyi Ruth; Chiweza, Asiyati Lorraine; Chasukwa, Michael; Chirwa, Timothy** (2015). The Political Economy of the Human Right to Water and Women in Malawi. In Anne Hellum, Patricia Kameri-Mbote and Barbara van Koppen (Eds.) *Water is Life: Women's Human Rights in National and Local Water Governance in Southern and Eastern Africa*, Harare: Weaver Press, pp 215-243.

Sumberg, J., Anyidoho, N., **Chasukwa, M., Chinsinga, B.**, Leavy, J., Tadele, G., Whitfield, S., and Yaro, J., (2015). Young People, Agriculture, and Employment in Rural Africa. In Resnick, D., and Thurlow, J. (Eds) *African Youth and the Persistence of Marginalization: Employment, Politics, and Prospects for Change*, London: Routledge, pp 111-100 32.

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**Kazima, M., Eneya, L. and Sawerengera, P.** (2015). Students' conceptions of logic in undergraduate mathematics. *Proceedings of the 9th Congress of European Research in Mathematics Education (CERME)*. 3-8 February 2015, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

**Nampota, D.C.** (2015) 'We use guided inquiry and open discovery in our lessons'. Investigating the extent to which this is true in the practice of in-service science teachers in Malawi. In Huillet, D. (Eds) *Mathematics, Science and Technology Education for Empowerment and Equity*. Proceedings of the 23rd SAARMSTE annual conference, 13-16 January, 2015, Pedagogical University and Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique (pp 279-293)

### Published research reports

**Nampota, D.C., Munthali, M. and Phiri, G.** (2015) *Enhancing Child Friendly Education in Machinga District: The case of Namasika Education Zone*. Evaluation report. Lilongwe: UNICEF Malawi, April, 2015.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

As we end the year, let us celebrate the appointment of Dr Antonie Chigeda to the position of Acting Director of e-Learning. Similarly, we congratulate Prof. Edrinnie Kayambazinthu on her appointment as Acting Director of Quality

Assurance. We wish you all the best in your new positions.

The past two months have not been without their moments of grief. We particularly mourn three students - Ms Lindiwe Muhone, Mr Suzyo Munthali and Mr Gustino Kachingwe - who

passed away in a car accident in December. We also mourn Professor Steve Chimombo, a retired member of the English Department.

We also express our condolences to Mr W. Chitaukali, on the passing of his mother. Similarly, our condolences go to Mr

Peter Nakoma, on his mother's passing.

May their souls rest in peace.

And of course we also mourn all those loved ones who passed away in the year 2015.

*Once again we wish to thank our readership for a successful first volume run. Your news contributions and feedback are always appreciated. Stay with us in 2016 as we objectively report all news pertaining to Chancellor College and the University of Malawi!*